



Week Three: Star Struck

Matthew 2:13-18

When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him." 14So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, 15where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son." 16When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. 17Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: 18"A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more."

I. Herod reminds us of the _____ of Christmas.

Ephesians 6:12

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

- Christmas is an invasion of _____ into a world of _____.
- Herod's life reveals Satan's goal for our lives: _____.
- Left to themselves, human beings will _____ themselves.

II. The light of Herod's own star _____ him from the truth of Christ.

- Herod's insecurities concerning Jesus were bred out of _____.
- Jesus didn't come to _____ what Herod had; he came to _____ him what he didn't have.
- In Christ Herod could have had a _____ for his past, a _____ of his future, and a _____ of victory.

Matthew 2:11

On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.

- Herod's battle is our battle: _____ or faith, _____ or follow, _____ or bow.

III. Herod spent a lifetime trying to achieve _____.

- Herod spent a lifetime of alliance-building but ultimately died _____.

Real stardom is not becoming a star; it is reflecting the Star.

James 1:12

Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.